

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-31 FDRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 TRSE-00 DHA-02 /102 W

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R 141515Z MAY 76

FM AMCONSUL PALERMO

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1794

UNCLAS PALERMO 0338

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SWEL, IT

SUBJECT: VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT

1. PRESIDENT FORD'S REQUEST FOR 25 MILLION DOLLARS IN DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE TO HELP ALLEVIATE THE EARTHQUAKE DESTRUCTION IN FRIULI AND VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO THAT REGION WERE EXTENSIVELY REPORTED AND COMMENTED BY THE SICILIAN PRESS.

2. PARTICULAR EMPHASIS WAS GIVEN TO AMERICAN SOLIDARITY AND THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE UNDERLINING THE BROAD HUMAN TIES AND THE SHARED VALUES AND GOALS BINDING TOGETHER THE ITALIAN AND AMERICAN PEOPLE AS WELL AS THE VICE PRESIDENT'S PERSONAL PARTICIPATION IN THE TRAGEDY AS EXPRESSED BY HIS EMBRACE OF AN OLD WOMAN, ONE OF THE VICTIMS OF THE EARTHQUAKE. THIS PICTURE WAS PUBLISHED BY ALMOST ALL PAPERS IN SICILY.

3. NOT EXPECTEDLY, HOWEVER, THE PALERMO COMMUNIST DAILY L'OORA TRIED TO PRESENT THE ROCKFELLER VISIT AS AN "ELECTORAL TRIP" AND CRITICIZED THE FACT THAT HUNDREDS OF POLICEMEN AND "CARABINIERI" WERE TAKEN AWAY FROM THEIR RESCUE WORK. CHIAVARINI

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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